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LA NACION CORRESPONDENT VIEWS VANCE RESIGNATION

PY291943 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 29 Apr 80 p 4

[Commentary entitled: "A Vacuum and a Question" by Enrique Ardissone, LA NACION Washington correspondent]

[Text] New York--From the letters exchanged we can detect a number of reasons which forced Cyrus Vance to resign, but these reasons do not hide the fact that the rescue operation to free the hostages was the straw that broke the camel's back. In referring to the U.S. secretary of state, we have reason to avoid the term failure, because he had a very well defined policy of not pursuing any course that did not involve bilateral negotiations or diplomatic channels.

We once said that Cyrus Vance was a "fine and industrious" foreign minister, but that his determination not to deviate methods involving the art of persuasion could be overtaken by the storm of events which demand a fast-changing international strategy. Carter refers to this in a passage of his letter. He speaks about "times of challenge," and this challenge has indeed forced Cyrus Vance to resign. To make a final judgment we need precisely what we now lack: a historical perspective which will establish whether the secretary of state's firm position in using only nonviolent methods increases his stature or, on the contrary, belittles him for not being able to face up to the circumstances.

It must be said, although this is quite well-known, that Cyrus Vance's permanent desire to ease tensions and his support for progressive understanding between the parties involved made him a personality worthy of respect. According the cables received yesterday and today from Europe, from other parts of the world and from U.S. allies, his incredible determination to promote the growth of that monster called SALT II helped to strengthen the bases for peaceful coexistence with the Soviet Union. He gambled without wavering in his determination, and he lost. And it is evident in any assessment of acts that both the Kremlin and the White House are responsible for this loss.

How could Vance remain in his post when his good intentions were continuously and spectacularly frustrated? The Soviet Union installed a combat brigade in Cuba, then invaded Afghanistan, and even before this incident the possibilities of quickly ratifying SALT II had faded away. His great rival Brzezinski defeated him in another battle, the battle to make the PRC into at least a temporary ally, thus damaging relations with the Soviet Union. In the UN Security Council, admitting the "mishandling" of orders, Brzezinski imposed the U.S. vote against Israel. As a consequence of this, and in addition to the strident protests aroused by that vote, Vance was blamed for Carter's defeat by Kennedy in New York, where the Jewish community massively supported the senator. Vance traveled to Europe to convince friends that they should support Washington's handling of the Iranian crisis with actions tending to avoid the use of force and returned almost empty-handed. In NATO, the voice of Defense Secretary Harold Brown sounded louder than Vance's. Finally, Vance stood up as a strong opponent of the Entebbe-type operation in Tehran just to see President Carter turn his back on him and launch the operation, following the advice of other aides.

What else could this man do but resign under the weight of continuous setbacks, a man who, lacking fighting spirit, long ago withdrew into "the shadows?"

How childishness can still exist in times of tragedy can be seen, for instance, in the statement of a press secretary like Jody Powell, who nonchalantly has just said that Vance--who was then "on vacation"--was not invited to the final meeting to decide on the raid because that could have raised suspicious about the existence of a top-secret plan....

Vance will be replaced by Christopher, who accompanied Brzezinski on his ill-fated trip to Pakistan and who--there was no secret about it--had already been performing the function with which he is now officially entrusted.

HERALD Sees Firmer Policy

PY291712 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 29 Apr 80 p 10

[Editorial: "An End To Retreat?"]

[Text] Perhaps the most telling immediate comments on the resignation of Secretary of State Cyrus Vance have come from Iran and the Soviet Union, where tribute was paid to his political wisdom. Both countries will clearly miss him and are alarmed at the prospect that his replacement will almost certainly take a different view of their ambitions and the U.S. role in foiling them. It is not that Vance, a patriotic and public-spirited man, saw himself as helping the Iranians or the leaders of the Soviet Union in any way. It is simply that, as a man who preferred compromise to confrontation, a dignified reduction of U.S. pretensions to what struck him as unrealistic intransigence, Vance was a survivor of "detente," a view of international relationships that was always an illusion and had now become little more than a bitter-sweet memory. Detente consisted largely of an optimistic reading of Soviet intentions by Western leaders that had little to do with the truth as constantly stated, time and time again, by the Soviet regime's spokesmen themselves. In retrospect it is more than likely that detente will be seen by future generations as little more than a synonym for appeasement.

Had the world been dominated by sensible men sincerely determined to find a just solution to the problems that divide them Vance would have been an admirable steward of foreign policy. Unfortunately this was not, and is not, the case. Most of the world is dominated now as it always has been by unscrupulous and ambitious men willing to stoop to any form of treachery to achieve their ends. In the case of the Iranians the end is simple enough: the humiliation of the U.S. and the return of the shah so the mob can wreak vengeance on him. The aim of the Soviet leaders is rather more grandiose: nothing less than the triumph of Marxism throughout the world and the permanent removal of any threat to Soviet hegemony from Western Europe, especially Germany, the U.S. and Japan.

In this terrible world, in which millions of men respond to Hitlerian fantasies of conquest and the subjugation of other, Vance's kind of statesmanship could only provide temporary settlements that, by disguising the defeats that had been inflicted on Western interests, delayed the necessary stiffening of Western resolve and reduced what chances there may still be of halting the steady attrition of Western power, it is surely no accident that his stewardship of U.S. foreign policy covered what, it must be hoped, will prove to be the final stage of a long period of U.S. retreat.

The differences between the "hawks" and the "doves" in the White House and the State Department regarding foreign policy have been apparent for a long time and have done nothing to help the U.S. face the constantly expanding and intermeshed crisis to which it is being exposed. [paragraph continues]

Far too often the West's premier power has seemed to speak in two or more voices of varying power rather than in just one. This, as well as the fluctuations in policy, has contributed much to the disarray in which the Western "alliance" now finds itself, providing the Europeans and the Japanese, not to speak of countries further afield, with innumerable opportunities to evade their share of the joint responsibilities. Without Vance the U.S. Government should be able to evolve a far firmer and far more realistic approach to the rest of the world, an approach not weakened by internal fissures or by gentlemanly illusions about the kind of people the U.S. is dealing with.

GRAFFIGNA DISCUSSES TALKS WITH SPANISH LEADERS

PY281444 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2105 GMT 26 Apr 80

Palma de Mallorca, Spain, 26 Apr (TELAM-AFP)--Gen Omar Domingo Graffigna, commander in chief of the Argentine Air Force, stated here today that the world is going through very difficult times and that Argentina wishes to avoid isolationism.

Graffigna also stated that it is necessary to establish closer relations among peoples who share the same way of thinking, the same ideals and the same way of life. He added that the objective of his visit is to establish closer relations between Argentina and Spain at all government levels. This policy is in effect in Argentina and Spain at all government levels. This policy is in effect in Argentina, and I have imposed it on the air force as member of the military junta.

General Graffigna pointed out that his meetings with King Juan Carlos, Vice President General Gutierrez Mellado and Defense Minister Agustin Rodriguez Sahagun have been frank and cordial, stressing the great friendship existing between Argentina and Spain.

General Graffigna resused to comment on the failure of the U.S. mission in Iran. He added: "I only know what I have read in the newspapers."

AIR FORCE OFFICIAL SAYS BEAGLE STAND FIRM

PY290406 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1725 GMT 28 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Rio Gallegos, 28 Apr (TELAM)--Argentina will make the historic and geographic principle of the division of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans respected, said Maj Gen Jesus Orlando Capellini, commander of air operations, regarding the dispute with Chile, during an exclusive dialogue with TELAM in this capital today.

He also said that the policy of the armed forces is not to make statements in order not to create false expectations or start misunderstandings. He said that frictions should be avoided; therefore, it is better not to make statements on the border conflict until the pope's mediation is over.

In spite of this, he confirmed the Argentine position of making the historic principle of the division of the oceans respected.

ARMED FORCES, COB SIGN DOCUMENT GUARANTEEING ELECTIONS

PY300324 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 0200 GMT 30 Apr 80

[Excerpt] The Bolivian Labor Central [COB] and the armed forces signed a document tonight which guarantees the holding of the forthcoming elections on 29 June. During a meeting which lasted over 6 hours, the military commanders and COB leaders analyzed the political situation of the country and agreed to sign a document which guarantees the political stability of the country and the consolidation of the democratic process.

GENERAL DENIES MILITARY PREPARING COUP

PY291441 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 29 Apr

[Text] Gen Armando Reyes Villa, commander in chief of the armed forces, said in Cochabamba that the armed forces are very much concerned over the country's political situation because political parties are not reaching agreements and there is little time left before the June elections.

He categorically denied that the armed forces, by reactivating the military-peasant pact and engaging in other military activities, are preparing another coup. He said that rumors about a coup are completely unfounded and have the purpose of discrediting the armed forces, an institution which is only engaged in specific military functions.

He said that, on the contrary, the armed forces are truly interested in the holding of general elections in order that the people might elect a popular government. In this regard, he said that the military supports Lidia Gueiler's government because she, more than any male president, has accomplished a great deal in the presidency of the nation.

Asked why Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez has recently been attending public military functions, the commander said: I like that question. General Banzer probably attended the funeral of Gen Rene Barrientos Ortuno as an old friend of his. General Banzer has nothing to do with the military-peasant pact or any other activities of the armed forces.

Regarding the Committee for the Defense of Democracy headed by Lechin, Paz, Siles and others, General Reyes said that they are trying to install a system similar to the one used in Cuba to create anarchy and unrest in the country by attacking the armed forces. He added that this was the reason for the high military command communique and other statements by high military leaders and that the armed forces have the right to defend themselves.

When asked if the armed forces would respect the results of the June elections, whoever wins, the commander said: This is a horrible question. He excused himself from answering it by discussing the election in general terms. In conclusion, regarding the invitation made by Senate President Walter Guevara Arze for a debate, Reyes Villa said that the high military command is considering the proposal.

GUEVARA ARZE PROPOSES DEBATE ON ARMED FORCES' ROLE

PY260320 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2241 GMT 25 Apr 80

[Text] La Paz, 25 Apr (LATIN)--Walter Guevara Arze, president of the Congress, proposed today to the armed forces that a public debate be held on the role of the armed forces in Bolivia's present political process.

Former President Walter Guevara Arze, who is also leader of the centrist Authentic Revolutionary Party (PRA), made this proposal a few hours after the armed forces issued a strongly-worded statement in which it warned about a possible return to power in light of an "extremist" threat in Bolivia.

Guevara Arze reasserted today his fears about the danger of "a tragic clash" in Bolivia between the military sector and the political and union sectors as a result of a hardening of positions. He added that the last statement issued by the armed forces shows that there is a confusion about the doctrine and the function of the armed forces. He said that this "must be made clear."

Guevara Arze said that this confusion is based on the interpretation of the so-called "extended security" military doctrine that demands that the armed forces of our country "watch over their own people" as potential enemies. He added that in the political sector there is also an erroneous belief that socialism may be achieved by overthrowing the government.

He said: "I personally believe that there is no real threat of this happening in Bolivia, no matter what the political sectors may be promoting."

The political leader, who is also president of the Senate, said that a public debate on both issues may be promoted in Congress through a request to the defense minister, who represents the armed forces.

LECHIN SPEAKS ABOUT OBJECTIVES OF CONADE

PY261504 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 26 Apr 80

[Text] Juan Lechin Oquendo has asserted that the only purpose for forming the Committee for Defense of Democracy [CONADE] is that of safeguarding the democratic process in Bolivia. The old labor leader gave the following explanations:

[Begin recording] As the document says, the ideological disagreements within CONADE are irreconcilable in some cases, but they do not refer to strategic objectives. [Words indistinct] pursue a single objective--that of defending democracy by exclusively peaceful methods. We have no weapons and we can assert that fact to anyone. There are no weapons in CONADE and we have no desire to arm the people. This should be made perfectly clear. Our methods are peaceful and we repeat that strikes and the blocking of the roads are our only arms. [end recording] He then said that those are not offensive, only defensive arms, referring to strikes and roadblocks.

Asked his opinion about the present political situation in the country, Lechin said:

[Begin recording] We feel calm because we are convinced that the democratic process will be respected. We hope this will be understood by some members of the armed forces who are undoubtedly concerned for several reasons. We understand that the Banzer group wants to stop the trial underway in Congress at any cost so they may just embark on any adventure. We understand that other military groups are facing that group, hoping firmly that the democratic process will be respected. [end recording]

He also confirmed that the only concern at present is related to the defense of democracy and repeated that the defense will be carried out by peaceful means. He concluded by asserting that CONADE will not engage in any type of activity as long as no coup d'etat occurs.

O ESTADO VIEWS POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF IRAN RAID

FY291831 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 27 Apr 80 p 3

[From the "Notes and Information" page: Carter Gambled and Lost]

[Excerpts] President Carter gambled and lost. And as the Latin proverb states quite well, vae victis, woe to the conquered! We do not condemn the attempt to rescue the hostages who have been in captivity without any justification for the past 180 days. But this world has respect only for power and success; it does not forgive failures. There are some who compare the tragic failure in Iran with Pearl Harbor. But this comparison is only valid regarding the fatal political consequences of national humiliation, flagrant evidence of weakness, and of a lack of capacity and organization for carrying out the operation, as well as of a lack of imagination. This world not only does not forgive the conquered, it also loses respect for them, and, what is more, it stops following them.

The failure to rescue the hostages in captivity at the American Embassy in Tehran is being compared to the humiliating and ill-fated attempt of Cuban refugees, who were trained and armed by the CIA, to liberate the island from the Castro regime. The landing in the Bay of Pigs in April 1961 ended in total disaster and, even worse, with the massacre of the brave Cuban patriots because John Kennedy, a young and inexperienced President in his first term, hesitated and at the last minute canceled the air support promised to the invaders. Kennedy assumed the responsibility for the failure, which had disastrous consequences: decreased Latin American confidence in U.S. leadership and increased boldness on the part of the Soviets, who 6 months later, relying on the hesitant nature and the lack of courage of the U.S. President, seriously provoked the United States by installing nuclear missiles in Cuba.

In this tragic hour of national humiliation, Carter--who, as Kennedy before him, assumed personal responsibility for the failure of an operation, this time in the Tabas desert--the Department of State, the Pentagon, the presidential candidates, the U.S. people and the U.S. press can ponder the possible and probable international consequences of the unsuccessful attempt to rescue the hostages. Those consequences are the greater, although it may not be total, alignment of Iran with the Soviet Union and the greater boldness of the communist superpower, which is determined to include in its area of influence the entire oil-producing region in the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula. If the missile crisis was the direct consequence of the Bay of Pigs failure, what shape will the upcoming crisis to be brought on by the new decline in the international, military and diplomatic credibility of the United States take? And what price will the United States have to pay to establish credibility in its power and leadership, especially if the United States should decide to deliver on the promise made by Secretary of Defense Harold Brown that his country could try another military operation to rescue the hostages? The chief of the Pentagon put this solemn commitment this way: Let no one entertain any doubt about our determination or about the significance of these events. We will not rest as long as the hostages are not set free." This is to say that at this point the United States cannot shirk an obligation imposed on it by history unless it agrees to international degradation.

We are still affected by the impact of evevts. We are really astonished and perplexed at the failure of the superpower which won the space race by putting men on the moon and then returning them to earth but lost the opportunity to repeat the feats carried out at Entebbe and Mogadiscio. There is no doubt that the first responsibility for this failure falls on Carter, who has a Hamlet-like temperament, lacks the gift of leadership and is like the man in the Bible who was condemned for not completing the work he had started. Of course we cannot say anything about the nature of the technical difficulties, whether they really made it necessary to abort the operation. We are inclined to accept the apt analysis or criticism made by the Israelis: "The Americans are held back by mental complexes which keep them from launching unconventional operations" and "in a difficult military operation the most important ingredient, in addition to information provided by intelligence services, is imagination." With the entire Seventh Fleet plying waters nearby, we cannot understand why the disable helicopters could not have been replaced.

Nevertheless, the West has a well-defined place in the crisis which is bound to come, because its own fate will be at stake, not just that of Carter or the United States.

O GLOBO Faults Raid's Timing

PY300258 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 29 Apr 80 p 20

[Text] Since President Carter is not a helicopter mechanic, his responsibility in the failure to rescue the Tehran hostages is necessarily limited.

Meanwhile, the critics seem to agree on one point: Carter lacked perception--a sense of opportunity--regarding the time that was chosen for the operation.

The operation was carried out just when Washington had obtained the support of its allies for economic reprisals against the Iranian Government; and that solidarity was obtained precisely because it was an alternative to armed action.

Undoubtedly Carter did what he had to do, but at the wrong time.

This is probably the cause of the resignation [afastamento] of secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

MINISTER SAYS STRIKE WILL NOT CHANGE SALARY POLICY

PY292002 Porto Alegre Radio Gaucha in Portuguese 1545 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Text] The strike in the ABC region of Sao Paulo will not force the government to change the current salary policy. This statement has been made by Labor Minister Murilo Macedo, who added that the readjustments every 6 months and direct negotiations between employers and employees to establish the productivity rate will be maintained.

According to the minister, the new salary law was not a response to the metalworkers strike, and despite everything he has strengthened the purchasing power of the working class, which had been adversely affected by the high rate of inflation.

POLICE KILL SUSPECT IN CARABINERO SHOOTING

PY291552 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 29 Apr (TELAM)--Security agents last night killed a leftist extremist whom official sources believe was one of the men who murdered a Carabinero early Monday morning.

The National Information Center (CNI) reported that 30-year old Oscar Salazar took out a gun and started shooting at security agents when they ordered him to halt.

The official report states that Salazar was also carrying two handgrenades. The clash took place at an intersection in the Renca District, a suburb north of Santiago.

The CNI reported that Salazar was a member of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) and that his alias was Ivan.

Police Arrest 357

PY292156 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Police report by (Pedro Antonio Rojas)]

[Text] Police last night detained 357 suspects during a dragnet operation. Not all of those detained are involved in the killing Carabinero Hernan Novoa, but the unusual number of arrests gives an idea of the extent of the operation that is being carried out throughout Santiago.

Despite the fact that the situation in Santiago seems to be normal, police search operations have not ended. A few minutes ago the police were carrying out a house-by-house search in (Lira) and (Argomendo) streets as a result of information supplied to Carabineros that an extremist was reportedly hiding in this sector of town.

While the police are closing in on the extermists, the leaders of the subversives are resorting to [word indistinct] strategy to ease the pressure on them. Part of their strategy is to call in bomb threats in different sectors, such as the bomb threats at 2800 (Irrazabal) Street, at (Julio) and (Tocornal) streets, at 801 (Roberto Espinoza) Street, etc. The extremists called in more than 10 bomb threats this morning to distract police personnel.

Furthermore, at about 1220 this morning four individuals attacked a taxi on the corner of (Vicuna Mackenna) and (Rancagua) streets, taking the driver with them. Witnesses state that one of the attackers was a short and swarthy man about 25 years old, and that the other was a 50-year-old man wearing a dark jacket and a belt.

All high-ranking chiefs of the Carabineros, the civilian police corps, the CNI and all those organizations taking part in this dragnet operation early this morning held an extensive meeting at the Diego Portales Building. The objective of this meeting was to discuss this extremist outbreak and its implications.

The general belief of these high-ranking police chiefs is that this is part of a plan set in motion with a view to the forthcoming 1 May ceremonies, and that this plan is to be carried out by a group of extremists who call themselves the "Popular Resistance Command." They are really the same persons who comprise the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, MIR.

Fingerprint specialists have discovered fingerprints identical to those found in four recent extremist attacks: the attack against the (AGA) supermarket, the frustrated attack against the (?Pan-American) industry and the attacks against the banks.

It was reported that the five persons who were detained yesterday near (Santa Rosa) Street have been charged with violating the National Security Law. It was not reported, however, whether they were involved in the killing of Carabinero Novoa, which is the center of attention of all the operations that are being carried out at this time.

Extremists have also spread the rumor that Andres Pascal Allende is in Chile. The latest news about his presence in the country was heard during an operation carried out in the (Arayan) district, as a result of which (Cesar Perez) and other MIR members were arrested.

Since that time nothing here has been heard about Pascal Allende, although a series of pamphlets that have been issued are signed by him. Experts state, however, that the signature used on these pamphlets is a good forgery. This leads to the belief that the extremist leader is not in Chile, but that extremists are saying he is in Chile to confuse the police and security organizations.

The police will tighten security measures in the next few hours. They will carry out house-by-house search operations in some sectors and car checks in other sectors to find the extremist commando group that killed Carabinero Hernan Novoa.

EXTREMIST SEEKS ASYLUM AT COSTA RICAN EMBASSY

PY292159 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Text] This is a last-minute report. An extremist has sought asylum at the Costa Rican Embassy. An embassy spokesman reported that a terrorist sought asylum early this morning.

The Chilean Foreign Ministry has reported that the Costa Rican ambassador has not yet officially reported anything in this regard. A Costa Rican spokesman, however, has reported that the ambassador will give details on this incident during a press conference.

The identity of the extremist has not been disclosed.

Envoy Reports to Rojas

PY292250 Santiago Chile Radio Mineria in Spanish 2230 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Text] Radio Mineria reporting from the Foreign Ministry [begin recording] identified the individual who entered the Costa Rican Embassy in Santiago this morning requesting asylum. This was reported a few minutes ago by Costa Rican Ambassador (Manuel Hernandez Gutierrez) after his meeting with Foreign Minister Rene Rojas Galdames, to whom he reported on the situation.

The diplomat said that he did not know to which political party (Carlos Orta) belongs and declined to provide more information, saying that he would wait for a reply from his government. [end recording]

BRIEFS

AGREEMENTS WITH PORTUGAL--Chile has signed technological and scientific cooperation agreements with Portugal for development of the fishery sector. [Santiago Chile Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0434 GMT 26 Apr 80 PY]

ALLEGED STUDENTS SEIZE CATHEDRAL, HOLD BISHOP HOSTAGE

PA291825 Paris AFP in Spanish 1301 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Text] Bogota, 29 Apr (AFP)--Hooded individuals, reportedly university students, today occupied the cathedral of Popayan, capital of Cauca Department and held Bishop Siberio Buitrago as hostage. They are demanding among other things, the release of political prisoners, according to radio sources.

According to TODELAR network, about 30 students of the Popayan University occupied the cathedral and after closing its doors, demanded the release of political prisoners, the reinstatement of several fellow students expelled last year and the derogation of a decree amending higher education in Colombia.

The report did not specify whether the students were armed, but noted that their faces were covered with hoods. Police officers were reportedly posted in the vicinity of the cathedral.

OAS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION ISSUES COMMUNIQUE

PA271759 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1704 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Excerpt] President Turbay Ayala's government announced that within a few hours, it will reveal a series of important documents in connection with the government's position maintained during the negotiations held with the guerrillas who held the embassy of the Dominican Republic for 61 days.

I wish to mention that during the commission's stay in the Republic of Colombia, meetings were held with the president of the republic, the president of Congress, the president of the Supreme Court, the attorney general and the ministers of foreign relations, government, justice, defense and communications as well as with other civilian and military authorities, both national and local, at the places visited.

The commission also met with former presidents of the republic, with Cardinal Munoz Duque, with Archbishop of Cali Monsignor Uribe Urdaneta, in addition to politicians, clergymen, professionals and the representatives of labor, peasant, business and student organizations, from which it obtained statements regarding the true Colombian situation in the field of human rights.

The commission visited penitentiaries in Bogota, Cali, Medellin and Bucaramanga, hearing individual and collective complaints at these places in connection with alleged violations of human rights.

The Colombian Government has given assurances that no measures will be taken in connection with the persons and institutions that filed complaints, information and testimony. The commission also observed those oral courts-martial which were open to the public during its stay in Colombian territory.

Within its mandate and based on legal dispositions regulating it, the commission believes it has contributed toward a satisfactory solution of the problem stemming from the occupation of the Embassy of the Dominican Republic in Colombia, and, in compliance with the agreement reached with the government, the commission will continue to conduct, in Colombian territory, new (? investigations) and the necessary activities to assure the objective of its mission in this country.

This is the summary of a document released a few minutes ago by the Inter-American Human Rights Commission.

ROYO TERMS U.S. RESCUE OPERATION 'FLAGRANT VIOLATION'

PA291243 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 28 Apr 80

[Interview with President of the Republic Dr Aristides Royo on 28 April at the Fermin Nadeau School, Panama City--recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Mr President, what is your opinion of Mr Carter's attempt regarding the Iranian case and the hostages in Tehran embassy?

[Answer] I think it was a mimicking of the operation carried out by the Israelis at Entebbe. I think it was a really risky operation. The operation reminds me of some political situations that can result in either victory or defeat. Had it been a victory, it is possible that the whole world would have celebrated it. But it was an invasion and a violation of international law.

We have criticized Israel, I beg your pardon, Iran, and we have said that Iran has violated international law because the government has permitted the holding of U.S. hostages.

In our opinion, one violation of international law does not justify another. Israeli [as heard] airspace was violated. Israeli [as heard] territory was violated with this type of action. We cannot justify it. However, it was a--let us call it--political action aimed at saving hostages who are being held unjustly in a place that is territory of the United States of America, although this may be only juridical fiction. This is the case of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

[Question] If this case comes up in international organizations, such as the United Nations, what would Panama's position be?

[Answer] What?

[Question] If the problem of the United States comes up in international organizations, such as the United Nations, what would Panama's position be?

[Answer] We would have to study this carefully, but at first glance, after having seen the objectives and the action itself, this is a flagrant violation of the territorial rights of a country and of Iran's sovereignty. This is evident. I am sure that with the same honesty and responsibility President Carter demonstrated when he narrated the events and assumed responsibilities, the United States will have to admit that it violated a clear principle of international law by violating the air and territorial space of another country.

[Question] Thank you, Mr President, for these statements for Televisora Nacional.

[Answer] Thank you, Hernandez.

COLOMBIAN ENVOY DISCUSSES PROPOSED M-19 MEETING

PA292054 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1522 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Text] Panama City, 29 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Colombian Ambassador to Panama Ricardo Lopez was surprised by reports from Bogota claiming the leftist 19 April Movement (M-19) group will hold a summit meeting here on Thursday.

Lopez mentioned an ACAN-EFE report published by a local newspaper today, Tuesday, reporting that Commander Uno of the operation that occupied the Dominican Embassy in Bogota had said in Havana that he planned to attend a meeting of his group next Thursday in Panama City.

The meeting, according to the report, would be attended by Jaime Bateman, top M-19 leader.

"I cannot understand how Bateman could enter Panama illegally as he is an outlaw," said the Colombian diplomatic representative in this capital.

Lopez said, however, that the decision would be in the hands of the Panamanian Government, that he did not know if the guerrillas had requested visas to enter Panamanian territory.

Meanwhile, sources from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other ministries involved in this matter denied having any knowledge of that meeting.

Panamanian President Aristides Royo had offered this capital to the Colombian Government and the M-19 Movement as a location for discussions on the settlement of the occupation of the Dominican Embassy in Bogota, which concluded last Sunday.

On that day most of the guerrillas involved in the operation left for Havana.

COMMENTARY OPPOSES LAND OCCUPATIONS IN CHIRIQUI

PA290426 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 28 Apr 80

[Mario Velasquez commentary]

[Text] Last week there was an incident in Chiriqui. This incident was quickly solved by the authorities but it would be only a symptom and a signal if incidents of the same nature take place again. We are referring to the occupation of privately owned lands by Chiriqui peasants.

The Panamanian peasants have many problems, and undoubtedly the state must take care of these peoblems to improve the standard of living of many peasant families who live under very difficult conditions.

Several state institutions are dedicated to this task. In the past few years, the attention the government has given to the agricultural sector is noteworthy. Services include the extension of social security to rural areas, salary increases, more education services, roads, agricultural programs, credit increases, technical assistance for farming and many other measures that have contributed to improving the standard of living of the Panamanian peasants.

We admit that there is still much to be done and that many of our peasants suffer many calamities, including, in many cases, the lack of good land for their crops.

It is for this reason that we view any aspiration of the Panamanian peasants to improve their work and living conditions with sympathy and human solidarity. However, the using of the just cause of the peasants and their social and economic problems by political extremists--in this case, well-known communist militants--to produce de facto situations that are contrary to law and social order by encouraging land occupations, is unacceptable. Land occupations solve nothing and complicate the situation of the peasants by generating defensive reactions from all the landowners in the country. This affects the life of the peasants in their communities. Illegal land occupations encouraged by extremist agitators must not be tolerated by the authorities because such measures, unjustifiable in a country like Panama, work mainly against the interests of the peasants themselves, create fear in the enterprises sector and do great harm to the government's image. These land occupations, where the peasant families are only a tool of shrewd individuals, are no more than the result of demagogic attitudes that touch on a serious problem and unnecessarily make more acute a social problem that should be solved with an elevated and calm disposition toward social justice.

COSTA RICA

OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON AIR BRIDGE TO CUBA

PA291233 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Text] Humanitarian reasons motivate us to work toward reestablishing the air bridge between Costa Rica and Cuba. Negotiations have been suspended but they have not been canceled. These statements were made by Jose Francisco [last name indistinct], the Costa Rican Government's delegate.

The Cuban Government has allowed departures for Costa Rica by means of the air bridge installed on orders from President of the Republic Rodrigo Carazo because there was no other way to leave the island.

The negotiations for flying or hiring planes to facilitate the departure of the dissidents had been established through the Cuban patriotic junta and other groups of Cubans.

Our fatherland has been offered so that they may come here, and then prepare themselves to leave for the countries that will receive them.

EL SALVADOR

MORE VIOLENCE REPORTED AS TEACHERS' STRIKE BEGINS

PA291408 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] To protest the large wave of violence and repression, the National Association of Salvadoran Teachers [ANDES] has begun a strike in demand of labor claims. The strike has also been staged to protest the deaths of more than 22 ANDES members. Civil servants are also on strike.

Car salesman Victor (Milhauen) has been kidnapped, presumably by guerrillas. His family has not disclosed any report on it. Including (Ken Quire), there are four kidnapped industrialists.

Thirteen people have been killed. The bodies were found in several parts of San Salvador. Three of them are ANDES teachers.

Clashes in Two Cities

PA291748 Paris AFP in Spanish 1735 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 29 Apr (AFP)--Salvadoran Air Force planes and helicopters today overflew cities in the hinterland where several guerrilla groups attacked national police garrisons causing confrontations that have left an unspecified number of dead and injured, it was learned here.

Santa Ana and San Miguel, the second and third most important cities in the nation, 64 km west and 138 km east of San Salvador, respectively, were the focuses of the clashes.

In San Salvador bomb explosions that occurred during dynamite attacks alarmed the population this morning.

Meanwhile, personnel carriers and armored vehicles were patrolling the city to prevent disturbances on the eve of 1 May, International Labor Day.

Radio Stations, Patrol Attacked

PA292318 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1426 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Early this morning, a group of individuals attacked two local radio stations in San Miguel. Subsequently, a military patrol which was patrolling the city was attacked by another group of individuals. In the patrol's repelling action, one person was killed, reportedly one of the subversive individuals which attacked the military group.

Here is the information which we received to pass on to all the listeners of YSU:

[Unidentified voice from San Miguel] At 0700 Radio Minuto and Radio Chaparrastique were stormed, the former by two men and one woman and the latter by two men. Their faces were covered with scarves with the initials of the Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces [FPL]. They played tapes containing communiques in which they repudiated the government junta.

[Question] How long did transmission of the tape last?

[Answer] About 15 minutes.

[Question] It was approximately 15 minutes until some security corps arrived?

[Answer] Exactly. Afrerward, the guerrillas fled in different directions, but later at approximately 0715, a national police patrol was attacked near the market by two men and one woman. One of the men was killed.

[Question] We were told that two had been killed and that a young woman and a child had been injured.

[Answer] That is not true. It is completely false. One of the subversive elements, who had attacked the policemen with a 45-caliber weapon, was killed.

[Question] He has not been identified?

[Answer] No. He had no documents. The body was examined and there were no documents.

[Question] Have the security corps arrested anyone?

[Answer] No. The woman and the man fled.

Armed Forces Report Actions

PA300340 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0018 GMT 30 Apr 80

[Text] San Salvador, 29 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--An armed forces communique today reported that the harassment actions by extreme leftwing armed groups against military garrisons have intensified during the past few days.

The military report gave details of this morning's attack by leftist militants against military patrols in San Miguel and Santa Ana, the country's two most important cities after San Salvador.

An alleged member of the clandestine Popular Liberation Forces died today in San Miguel, 138 km east of San Salvador, when a military patrol was ambushed by two men and a woman. Two civilians passing through the area were also wounded in the incident.

A soldier was wounded by armed civilians who opened fire against a military convoy in Santa Ana, 67 km west of San Salvador. The attack occurred early this morning near the army garrison in that city.

The bulletin of the armed forces press committee also reported that a rural policeman was killed by "subversives" in a rural area bordering on Honduras. The military communique gave details of a leftist attack on an agricultural cooperative in western El Salvador. The head of the cooperative was killed in the attack. The military bulletin said the armed forces "have intensified their patrols in the country's agricultural areas" to counteract the "actions of terrorists and subversives" who are trying to hinder the agrarian reform process in El Salvador.

The government junta went a step further in its transformations of the country's agrarian structures by announcing on Monday night the abolition of the system of land leasing and sharecropping in this Central American country. So far it is not known how many landowners who lease their lands to peasants will be affected by the decree promulgated on Monday. However, it is evident that the Salvadoran Government will have very serious problems with the owners affected by this new measure. Most of them are small and medium landowners who basically live off the rent of their lands. Added to the opposition which the extreme rightist and leftist groups have carried out against it since the beginning, the junta will now have the antagonism of those affected by the new decree, many of whom had remained neutral and to some extent had supported the agrarian projects.

In other incidents, the bodies of six persons were found this morning near the National University in northern San Salvador.

LP-28 ASKS FOR RECOGNITION OF BELLIGERENT STATUS

PA300149 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Apr 80

[Excerpt] The 28 February Peoples Leagues [LP-28] has asked that the belligerent character of the Salvadoran democratic and revolutionary forces be recognized since they fulfill the requirements established by international law and the Geneva convention.

Carlos Argueta and Odilon Novoa, leaders of that popular organization which is fighting the military-Christian Democratic regime, also referred to the various forms of struggle and the growth of the popular movement which controls several liberated areas.

COORDINATING BOARD CALLS FOR MARCH 1 MAY

PA300157 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2220 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 29 May (ACAN-EFE)--The Salvadoran Leftist Revolutionary Coordinating Board of the Masses which includes four extreme left groups issued a call today to a rally and march on 1 May in San Salvador.

The Marxists have planned a series of activities to celebrate International Labor Day.

The government has said security troops will be restricted to their garrisons on this day to prevent clashes with the demonstrators but has advised the latter not to carry weapons.

MAJANO COMMENTS ON VIOLENCE, STRIKE, LABOR DAY

PA271830 Paris AFP in Spanish 0116 GMT 27 Apr 80

[Text] San Salvador, 26 Apr (AFP)--Junta member Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano said here today that neither the extreme leftwing nor the extreme rightwing "have been able to understand the intentions of the Salvadoran Government junta aimed at favoring the poorest people."

The 41-year old military officer was interviewed by AFP shortly before a Cabinet meeting where the country's educational problems were to be discussed. The educational process has been threatened because of the five strikes that the teachers carried out during this year and in view of the fact that only 6 school days have been conducted during the semester.

Majano noted that the wave of violence "will be stopped by the people themselves because they will get tired of being deceived by the two extremes." He said the government is trying to maintain tranquillity through vigilance but that sometimes it is impossible to control the groups which operate secretly, in the leftwing as well as the rightwing.

Seven bodies were found in San Salvador this morning, two of them near the government installations in the northern sector of the city. The victims had a paper with the letters "EM" on it indicating that they were killed by the "death squadron" [Escuadron de la Muerte]. Another message left beside the bodies read: "Because they were thieves."

The bullet-riddled bodies of five persons were found in Ayutuxtepeque in the outskirts of San Salvador. They had a sign with the initials of the Revolutionary Peoples Army on them.

Majano, one of the five members of the government junta made up of another military officer and three civilians, praised his colleague Antonio Morales Ehrlich, who received a letter from his son recently asking him to leave the government. At the same time, Morales Ehrlich's son announced that he was a member of the clandestine Peoples Liberation Forces.

Majano expressed optimism regarding the relations between the church and the government. The Catholic Church had drawn itself apart from the government in the wake of the murder of several clergymen. "It is time," Majano said, "to examine the status of the relations with the Catholic Church and for this reason, we are holding talks with its leaders." Majano said that violence may continue throughout 1980 but noted that during the remainder of this year the government will strengthen itself.

He discounted the idea of any kind of elections within the near future, noting that "the climate is not favorable." Majano complained that the teachers declare frequent strikes which in many cases serve as a pretext for leftist demonstrations.

In conclusion he said the government will not oppose any public demonstrations on 1 May, International Labor Day, despite the state of siege. "However, demonstrators will not be allowed to carry weapons," he emphasized.

DEFENSE MINISTER DISCUSSED MAINTENANCE OF CALM

PA292330 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 29 Apr 80 pp 2, 43

[Excerpt] The armed forces are present to ensure national tranquillity and to endorse the structural changes that the government junta is implementing and it acts within that framework, Defense Minister Col Jose Guillermo Garcia said yesterday.

Minister Garcia said some extremist political sectors include disrupting national tranquillity in their work programs for achieving their goals, but the armed forces are vigilant, complying with the orders given by the high command.

Garcia met newsmen in his office where he had held a working session with his closest aides to analyze the national situation. He said the government is abiding by the precepts outlined in the armed forces proclamation such as complete land reform, the banking nationalization and the nationalization of foreign trade.

UNIVERSITY, AGEUS TO JOIN FDR 30 APR

PA300126 San Salvador EL INDEPENDIENTE in Spanish 29 Apr 80 p 13

[Text] In line with the demands of the students, teachers and workers of the University of El Salvador, the university and the General Association of Salvadoran University Students (AGEUS) will join the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) tomorrow.

In line with the call to serve the people and ths historic mandate as a democratic institution, the University of El Salvador tomorrow will join the FDR which was created last week. The same decision was by the AGEUS which for years has been struggling to protect university autonomy and the unity of the students around democratic objectives seeking the good of the people.

The incorporation of the university into the FDR follows the demands of the university community which has felt the need to support alongside the people the platform proposed by more than 50 people's organizations, political parties and public and municipal organizations and associations.

The University of El Salvador and AGEUS call on the various segments of the population to turn out for this extraordinary event scheduled at 1600 tomorrow in the law school auditorium.

HONDURAS

ARMY OCCUPIES TEGUCIGALPA; POLICE UPRISING RUMORED

PA300313 Paris AFP in Spanish 0239 GMT 30 Apr 80

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 29 Apr (AFP)--Since last night Honduran Army units have been occupying the main Tegucigalpa streets and avenues, as well as the outlying districts due to tension created by rumors of a possible police corps uprising. Strongly armed army patrols are maintaining a constant vigilance in the city.

Meanwhile, the Public Security Forces (police), the lowest professional branch of the Honduran armed forces, are not to be seen anywhere in the city and their garrisons have been occupied by regular army units.

The government press secretariat, however, explained to AFP that the police corps were relieved today of their functions "so that they can train in one of the strategic training camps." The government spokesman also justified the army's presence in the streets of Tegucigalpa because of the growing delinquency in the city during the past weeks and because of the discovery of a terrorist plot.

The rumors about a police corps uprising, for reasons completely unknown, which have created a certain unrest among the people who have just held constituent assembly elections, were described as "mere speculation" by government spokesman German Allan Pagett.

NICARAGUA

ROBELO INTERVIEWED ON DIFFERENCES WITH JUNTA

PA290234 Managua Radio Corporaction in Spanish 1815 GMT 28 Apr 80

[Interview with Alfonso Robelo Callejas, former member of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and leader of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, at the studios of Radio Corporaction in Managua on the evening of 27 April 1980--recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified announcer] Friends and listeners of Radio Corporacion: On this occasion we have Alfonso Robelo Callejas before our microphone. He is currently in the center of public interest and he is going to tell us why. We are sure that the Nicaraguan people will receive this special interview or visit to Radio Corporacion with much interest.

Engineer Robelo: First, welcome to the studios of Radio Corporacion, where we welcome any friend or worthy persons. Many have come to visit us here because we are a station that is one with the people, the first station in the country.

We would like you to tell us, and to explain once more to the Nicaraguan people--although you have already done so on several occasions--the real reason why you resigned from the government junta; what took place before you resigned? Please tell us the personal or private talks you had with your companions of the junta and the National Directorate before making this very important decision. We would like a brief explanation from you.

[Answer] Thank you for this opportunity to address the Nicaraguan people, who are interested in the country's political situation. It is important to explain to our people that there are a number of actions, attitudes and resolutions that I have not agreed with. That is to say, my decision to resign from the government junta is the product of certain disagreements, of certain questions that I make regarding the manner in which the Nicaraguan revolutionary government was behaving.

Within the past several months--on 23 February to be exact--I posed questions, in private, to the National Directorate of the Sandinist Front and the government junta in full. All the commanders of the revolution and all the members of the junta were present. I told them that when in June of 1979 in Costa Rica I was called to become a member of the government junta, we agreed that the junta would work for a government of unity, for a pluralist government that would represent the different political and economic sectors of Nicaragua that were struggling against the Somozist dictatorship. We agreed that this government, this government junta, would be the head, the top authority of a government of transition that over a period of time would set the bases for the political, economic and social transformation of Nicaragua to lead to our first step as a democracy: to an election.

[Question] Engineer Robelo, may I interrupt? Why did you pose those questions to the National Directorate on that date? Had you observed anything that was not in agreement with what had been planned?

[Answer] First of all, we knew that we were fighting against a dictatorship and that it would be truly sad to create another dictatorship. We knew that there are things within these struggles that traditionally have taken the peoples toward a dictatorship. This was a cause for concern but the responsibility of struggling against Somoza was very great. Likewise, the responsibility of cooperating to take Nicaragua from one dictatorship to another was truly a cause for concern.

[Question] And why did you believe that the country might fall into another dictatorship?

[Answer] Because within the factions that were fighting one could see signs of Marxist-Leninist influence, which usually results in totalitarian governments. And this was a cause for concern. We, I personally and those of us in the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN], respect the Marxist-Leninists and demand respect from them. What is more, we share many social concerns. We do not want exploitation of man by man to continue. But neither do we want exploitation of man by a state managed by men, and much less the exchange of exploitation of man by man for the slavery of man under a totalitarian regime.

[Question] Engineer Robelo: Many things have been heard over the past few days. Attempts have been made to make it look as if you were opposed to certain decrees that were going to benefit the people. We would like you to tell us something about the nationalization of the banks, the 13th month bonus, the rent law. Do you oppose any of these decrees?

[Answer] As a matter of fact, I was one of the proponents of the nationalization of the banks. I knew that the banks were centers of power and that we had to eradicate them from Nicaragua to achieve a truly just society, to achieve an economic balance. I supported the rent law. I have always struggled so that each and every one of those decrees to benefit the Nicaraguan people would in fact benefit all Nicaraguans. So there is nothing more untrue than those charges. My differences with the government junta members are political. These differences involve the issues of freedom in Nicaragua; the timing of elections; and whether we can change, in an arbitrary manner, a government plan which was the framework we all supported and which was the commitment we all made in this struggle against Somoza. The Government of National Reconstruction was a transition government which cannot, in midstream, change fundamental bases such as the State Council. As a matter of fact the creation of the State Council was the last straw. But this does not mean that it was the only one.

The State Council, however, is a very important one. Article 18 of the basic charter gives the State Council the special function of drafting an electoral law and a constitution. So we are talking about a central issue, not just a minor one. And one cannot impose a change in which an organization, the Sandinist Front, will control--according to the basic charter--13 seats out of a total of 33, that is, somewhat more than one third, and then demand an absolute majority. This implies a wish to have a steamroller. And this, of course, goes against freedom and against the unity of all of us who fought to eradicate the Somozist dictatorship from Nicaragua.

[Question] In reality, what some distinguished officials of the revolution have said is that the State Council is merely a pretext you have used to resign because you were not able to make the sacrifices the revolution demands, and that you are simply not a revolutionary but a bourgeois who represents the exploiting class.

[Answer] On many occasions I have said that the important thing is not where you come from but where you are headed. I admit that I worked with private enterprise, that I am a leader of private enterprise, but my commitment is to the entire Nicaraguan people. Within the MDN and in my personal actions I have always carried the banner of the workers and the peasants, knowing that they are the great majority of this country and that it is they who should benefit from the government measures. Therefore, I feel that it is totally out of place to say now that I am defending class interests.

My actions have given proof of this. I have not left the country. I have stayed here, making sacrifices. I have stayed here, struggling for the working class, for the peasants, and for the entire Nicaraguan people because I also believe that the rights and freedoms of the minorities must be respected, and that we must work for unity, not fomenting hatred, but amid harmony, united like we were on that glorious 19 July and on that 20 July when we entered the plaza of the revolution.

That is the attitude that has been lost. This is what many of us Nicaraguans are now questioning. What has happened? Why are they trying to poison us with hatred? I asked this question many times within the government junta. Why aren't definite dates for an election set? Why are they trying to say that the people have already made their choice? Can't the people--as they see how the government is being run--one day choose to direct their steps in the future?

How can this not be a source of concern for the political parties such as the MDN? All the doors are being closed to pluralism. They are denying us access to the homes of Nicaraguans through television. It was truly a sad day when you [referring to Radio Corporacion owners] were denied permission to operate a television station. It was said publicly that this permission was denied, but this was never discussed at the government junta level. I protested these irregularities within the government.

This was one of the concerns that led me to make a commitment to my conscience, to my responsibility as a citizen, as a Nicaraguan. I could not go ahead with something that I felt was deflecting the revolution. That is the reason; a call from my conscience. I took this to the top authority of my party: the National Council. I told them that they had imposed a new makeup for the State Council, that it no longer had 33 members, that it had 47; and that instead of having 13 seats the Sandinist Front now had 24 so that it could have an absolute majority.

I asked them: What stand should we take? And in the National Council, last Monday 21 April, we discussed this broadly and for many hours: What stand should we take? Many votes were held. We invoked the name of the Lord at the beginning of that meeting because we knew how important it was going to be, and we arrived at the unanimous conclusion that we could not continue in the political posts that we occupied in the government. That would have been to betray our consciences. And that, in good Nicaraguan terms, would be to become "zancudos" [servile to the government] and we could not allow this to happen because although the MDN has a brief history it is a very worthy one.

[Question] In order to close this introduction; was any last minute effort made by the government junta or the front in regards to your resignation or the MDN's withdrawal?

[Answer] I want to state for posterity that the draft for the creation of the State Council was revealed at a junta meeting on Friday 11 April at Violeta de Chamorro's house. This draft coming from the Sandinist Front came to me as a surprise because it fundamentally changed the organization of the State Council. I asked them to please not vote on it that Friday, but to wait until the coming junta meeting on Wednesday 16 April. I took this organization draft of 47 members to the MDN and its National Council. We analyzed it thoroughly. It was also taken to the Revolutionary Patriotic Front. This coalition of parties includes the Sandinist Front, the Social Christian Peoples Party, the Independent Liberal Party and the Nicaraguan Socialist Party as well as the MDRN. We agreed that mid-way through the process we could not change a substantial part of the government program which is the basis for unity and support by all forces. This concern was expressed directly to the Sandinist Front.

However, during Wednesday's meeting when four members of the junta were present, as I said, the draft was again presented and we voted on it. This was the first time we voted on something. We had always decided by consensus or tacit voting, so for the first time we voted. Sergio Ramirez said: This is an historic moment, the junta will vote for the first time. The vote was a draw, Violeta and myself voted against it and Ramirez and Hassan voted in favor. But since several revolutionary commanders were present and they had the representation of the National Directorate, Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, who had participated before, not in direct voting but in junta discussions, cast his vote and with this procedure, the project was approved 3 to 2.

Now, I want to take advantage of your question to state that after 16 April, seeing the great importance of this State Council decision, we sent a letter to the Sandinist Front National Directorate, by means of revolutionary Commander Carlos Nunez, who is the delegate of the National Directorate, to speak or represent the organization at the Revolutionary Patriotic Front. This letter dated 19 April includes a very important passage which I shall read. It says: The proposal approved by the government junta and which will be published Monday, is in no way compatible with the spirit of unity, equity and mutual respect which we have constantly expressed in the meetings of the Revolutionary Patriotic Front.

If this decision is maintained it could endanger national unity. That is to say we all indicated that something was being imposed which would have a tremendous effect on the existing process.

Sunday passed and on Monday, April 21, I went to the government house and talked with Sergio Ramirez and asked him if he realized the results of this new action in which the MDN, my party, asks the National Directorate to reconsider the voting because it involves something which will endanger unity.

After consulting with one of the revolutionary commanders, Ramirez said that this was a final and total decision. I then told him that I would not attend today's news conference because I have called a meeting of the MDN and we shall decide there what our attitude will be.

When one analyzes these events and realizes everything that happened, one sees that to call the MDN or myself irresponsible is something which has no place because we exhausted many channels and many ways to see if by firmly and energetically stating the situation, we could obtain a reconsideration of something which in our opinion was serious because it diverged from the framework which was the program of the Government of National Reconstruction.

[Question] Referring to the framework, the junta members have been interviewed and they have given the impression that you are opposed to having majority representation in this State Council. Could you say something in this respect?

[Answer] Gladly. I like the question because it allows me to explain a basic aspect. In the letter of 19 April and during the 16 April meeting, we proposed an organization of the State Council based on 33 members representing the same 29 organizations of the Sandinist Front. That is to say, we are not eliminating any mass organization, political party, or labor organization. We are including the same 29 sectors but maintaining the same proportion and balance of some 13 votes for the Sandinist Front and the rest for other organizations. At no time have we wanted to eliminate any organization. We wanted to have a State Council organized in such a manner that it would adjust with corrections and changes to the basic part of the fundamental statute expressing the agreement within the Government of National Reconstruction program.

[Question] When the junta approved a 47-member State Council, did it break this principle?

[Answer] This is something which the Nicaraguans must understand clearly. With the decree organizing the State Council with 47 members the government junta is changing a basic aspect of the fundamental statute and the government program without a consensus. For me this is wrong because when one enters into an agreement to carry out a united liberation war against a murderer like Somoza, one is committed to abide by the rules of the game during a transitional government of pluralist unity which will establish the country's democratic bases.

One cannot, during the transition stage, change a fundamental aspect, and much less when it is done by decree. So the importance of the change is great. He said this during our various talks and notes.

[Question] But they say that the people already voted in the rebellion and that because the people voted in this manner, there is no need for a vote. The people already have voted and they represent a majority.

[Answer] I agree that the people united and voted against Somoza. But the people have not had the chance to choose its leaders and I, on several occasions, have asked for a specific date for holding elections. I understand and agree completely that the country should not have elections now and should have national unity and Christian love and that this unity must be the fruit of reconstruction. However, I believe it is very healthy for the people to know that on a specific date in the future there will be secret elections in which all parties can vote, and where all Nicaraguans can freely choose who their mayors and members of a constituent assembly will be so that Nicaragua can draft a new constitution. The people must choose who the new president of the country will be. This is essential and this is what the people fought for and why so much blood has been shed.

[Question] In democratic countries the logical manner to know what party has a majority is by counting votes. Since we are now working to rebuild the country, at least we could have a specific date so that people can express themselves by means other than noise and shouts and placards. The people should express themselves in an orderly and supervised manner. However, I should not be making these statements. In a demonstration held yesterday there were accusations against you. You have been called a coward, hypocrite, opportunist, liar, disloyal and many other things. What could you say about this?

[Answer] I saw it and heard it and believed that it would be good to explain if these epithets fit me. I ask you, if someone who acts according to his beliefs leaves the powerful, the ones who have the weapons, and publicly tells them their mistakes, can he be called a coward? Can a man be called a liar when he has made specific statements on the truth of what is happening? Why don't they tell me where I have strayed from the truth? Can a man be called an opportunist after having left a comfortable position to reveal precisely the places where the revolution is deviating from the framework of the process? To stay with this process would have been opportunism.

Many of those who remain, unfortunately and regrettably, do not have the courage to express that they do not conform to what is happening. They are really opportunists and are revealing that they are servile to the process. But I am speaking clearly here and saying that we can discuss this as civilized persons to find the best way to conduct this revolution. How can we be irresponsible after having made so many attempts to try to correct this latest error? I am sorry that all these epithets are being used because I believe this is an attempt to deceive the Nicaraguan people.

I believe there is marked ill-will when there is an attempt to distort an action by comparing it to the actions of Somoza. I want to emphasize this very much. I have always fought Somoza in Nicaragua openly. Clearly, this cost me a number of abuses from various quarters. But I always spoke clearly. I always spoke against Somoza and I shall continue speaking clearly. I am against Somozism, but I also believe we must not lead Nicaragua into communism. I am against emerging from one dictatorship to plunge into another one. I am against the CIA and against the Russian KGB.

[Question] There were also personal attacks against your family. They said your sons had not gone to the literacy campaign and that you had sent them to Miami.

[Answer] Yes, this is what has concerned me most; in the first place, because it has offended my children. Unfortunately, my only male son died when he was 1 year old. I only have three girls, they are 7, 8 and 13 years old. My oldest daughter asked me to support her because she was afraid and did not feel capable of teaching to read. She asked me what she should do, and I said, do what you think is best for you. That is, I stood by my daughter. This is what should be done in a free society and this is precisely what I did. I really think it is base to bring in family matters, and especially when the truth is distorted in these matters.

[Question] How about some charges regarding [break in transmission]

[Answer] [in progress]...my party, the MDN, in indicating that we were withdrawing from political posts. That is to say, we would not be members of the State Council, the government junta or the patriotic front of the revolution. However, aware of our commitment that the fatherland's interests are above party interests, aware that this country is experiencing a very difficult economic situation, we left our members who hold technical posts free to make their own decision. We acted in this manner precisely because the fatherland's interests are more important than party interests. We have not ordered any MDN member to withdraw from the technical posts. I think there is an attempt to confuse the people by saying that there has been a desertion in our party ranks when in fact just the opposite has occurred.

I would like to take advantage of this question to mention something that I believe is important. It is that Nicaragua has been left destroyed and looted by Somoza. It is a country which has been mortgaged by the dictatorship. The situation is truly critical. The situation demands that the Nicaraguans work within a genuinely Nicaraguan solution. I think we are seeing in Nicaragua the first signs that we are going to be used as pawns in the games of the imperialist superpowers. This is going to make it even harder for us to overcome this current hard economic situation.

[Question] There is another subject that was mentioned yesterday. It was said that there was a man laughing in Paraguay. That man is evidently Somoza. It was implied that your attitude and your resignation which provoked this crisis was in some way linked to Somoza's smile in Paraguay. That is what I understood. What do you think?

[Answer] As I said earlier, I am truly offended when there is an attempt to link me to the genocidal dictator whom I openly fought in Nicaragua and [words indistinct] to jail. I truly believe those are ill-willed statements which seek to confuse the people. Now I ask the Nicaraguan people, who is playing into Somoza's hands, the person who rashly acts to destroy unity, or the person who openly and clearly points out to the Nicaraguan people these deviations in the process and who heeds his patriotic conscience to call attention to this? I feel that those who rashly want to impose on us indefensible situations are the ones who are playing into Somoza's hands.

[Question] There is a very popular phrase that says that this process is irreversible. What do you understand by this phrase?

[Answer] I believe a process is irreversible when the fundamental sectors that are the basis of the unity of the Nicaraguan people are maintained. I think our march to democracy must be irreversible. However, I am greatly concerned when the people are told that the process is irreversible but then the people are not heard and there is no talk of elections. I am greatly concerned when it is said that this process cannot be turned back as if it is a steamroller that is going to impose on the Nicaraguan people a number of conditions and situations which are not what the people fought for. I think the least we should say is that the mistakes in this process must be recognized and corrected and the Nicaraguan people should be permitted to arrive at the irreversible process of democracy through elections. I think it is very dangerous to arrogate for oneself a permanent leadership, a lifelong leadership of a process without consulting the people and to believe that dictates are irreversible and that there is nothing the people can do but bow their heads. I do not think that after overcoming one dictatorship, the Nicaraguan people want to fall into another dictatorship.

[Question] What about the position of the MDN, whose ideals were read on 16 March, if I am not mistaken? We, as members of the MDN, found it very difficult to publicize them. We were unable to air a single advertisement on television. We were charged double the usual rate, (?808) cordobas per advertisement. We were ridiculed. (?They filmed) Alfonso Robelo in front of the MDN flag. This was not aired on any of the television channels. Well, these are [words indistinct] of the MDN. Regarding the MDN's principles which proclaim a socialism within freedom, what can you tell the people about this?

[Answer] To us in the MDN, socialism within freedom is to carry out a genuinely Nicaraguan revolutionary transformation in which we will eliminate the exploitation of man by man. That is, we take from the socialist doctrine the social aspect. We work to eliminate the exploitation of man by man. But this must be done without having to violate freedoms, without having to enslave men. If one eliminates exploitation of man by man through the establishment of an exploitation of man by the state, which would enslave man by taking away his freedom, then one is not eliminating the problem. That is why we advocate a socialism within freedom, a social democracy, a truly egalitarian society in which class differences will disappear and in which exploitation will end. But it must be a society without enslavement because that is a step backward. What is the use of material progress if one is enslaved to a party or a system? We have taken the social aspect of Karl Marx's theory but we have maintained the freedom that all human beings must enjoy.

[Question] Can you give us an example of these two theories, the one on the elimination of exploitation of man by man and the enjoyment of freedom and the other one? Can you give us examples of countries in which there is a socialism within freedom and the countries in which there is that other type of enslaving socialism?

[Answer] Of course. Social democracy has developed well in the West European countries, in the FRG, in the Scandinavian countries, in Sweden. Here in America, the most advanced country in this regard is Costa Rica. On the other hand, the countries which have to erect those iron curtains and walls to retain their people are countries where there is not even freedom of movement. When guards are withdrawn from embassies in those countries more than 10,000 of their people enter the embassies. In those countries such as Cuba and the GDR, the people are enslaved. There is an effort to achieve progress with that doctrine. Many times that progress is achieved but it is at the expense of freedom.

[Question] Would you like to add anything?

[Answer] Perhaps to conclude I would like to say that I think it is time that we Nicaraguans think about Nicaragua. It is time that we Nicaraguans think about unity, fraternity, love not hatred, that we begin to respect each other, that we build a truly democratic Nicaragua, that we achieve Sandino's dream. He used to say at the end of all his letters, as we say in the MDN: fatherland and freedom.

[Question] One last question. There is a lot of talk about how Yankee imperialism should not intervene in Nicaragua. However, we notice that there are many foreigners in Nicaragua. There are a lot of foreigners everywhere and this is not called intervention but internationalism. The blond individuals are said to be intervening. Why is there this differentiation between this and the internationalism of foreigners who come here? There are Chileans, Peruvians, Cubans, Mexicans and so forth here and no one says anything.

[Answer] I think that all Nicaraguans have suffered from U.S. intervention. That is the intervention we have suffered and that is the one which makes us react more violently. I believe this is logical. I am emphatically nationalist and firmly believe that we must strive to prevent foreign interventions which in the past have stemmed from the United States. But, it would be sad for a country damaged by war and looting such as ours and mortgaged by Somoza, to emerge from the influence of Yankee imperialism as a result of the war of liberation and fall into the hands of Soviet imperialism. I think we should have diplomatic relations with all countries in the world and a truly nonaligned policy, but this must be based on respect. As we in the MDN say, this revolutionary process must be kept truly Nicaraguan. I think this is truly essential. I also think that it is essential, as Ruben Dario stated, that we maintain our attitude of praying to Jesus Christ and speaking in Spanish.

REPRESENTATIVES TO STATE COUNCIL APPOINTED

Sandinist Peoples Army's Member

PA292022 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Text] Managua, Commander Hugo Torres, who was deputy minister of the interior, was appointed representative of the Sandinist Peoples Army in the State Council which will be installed in Managua on 4 May.

The controversial organization, which last week was the cause of the resignation of Alfonso Robelo Callejas from the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, will act as adviser to the junta in legislative affairs and will be made up of 47 members.

FSLN's Member

PA292014 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Text] The Secretariat of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] National Directorate hereby reports to our heroic people that the following companeros have been named to represent our vanguard organization on the State Council: Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce Castano, who will head the delegation; Commander Rene Nunez Tellez, alternate; guerrilla Commander Omar Cabezas Lacayo; Companero Julio Lopez, alternate; guerrilla Commander Dora Maria Tellez; Companera Doris Maria Tijerino, alternate;

Companero Federico Lopez; Companero Sebastian Castro, alternate; Companero Carlos Zamora; guerrilla Commander Leticia Herrera, alternate; Companero Rafael Tijerino Haslam and guerrilla Commander Elias Noguera, alternate.

Long live the State Council. Long live 1 May, International Labor Day! Free fatherland or death!

[Signed] Commander Rene Nunez Tellez, FSLN National Directorate Secretary.

Farmworkers' Member

PA292037 Managua Sistema Sandinista de Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Excerpt] The Farmworkers Association [ATC] announced today at 1500 at the Ruben Dario Theatre the names of the six persons who will represent it on the State Council. They are: Gilberto Lara, ATC national production secretary, first proprietary member; Domingo Gomez, member of the ATC's political training center, first alternate; Dennis Chavarria, a small producer from Matagalpa, second proprietary member; Pedro Pablo Ruiz Arauz, president of the Sandinist cooperative in Esteli, second alternate; Estanislao Montiel Vilchez, third proprietary member and Victorino Mendoza Martinez, third alternate.

Other participants in the event were Companeras Patricia Orozco, on behalf of the Sandinist defense committees, and Monica Baltodano, on behalf of the National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front.

Journalists Union's Member

PA291614 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Text] The Union of Journalists of Nicaragua [UPN] this afternoon elected in a democratic general election the two persons who will represent Nicaraguan newsmen in the State Council which will be inaugurated on 4 May.

The companeros elected are: Carlos Garcia, from NEW NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY and Javier Reyes, a member of the BARRICADA political commission. They are two outstanding Sandinist revolutionaries, courageous strugglers against the exploitation system of the past and who today continue struggling for the total consolidation of the Sandinist people's revolution. These two worthy members of Nicaragua's journalism, who are also members of the UPN National Secretariat, were unanimously elected because they really represent the interests of Sandinism, Nicaragua's news media and the combative spirit of the Nicaraguan people.

PROTESTANTS VOICE SUPPORT FOR STATE COUNCIL

PA291515 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Text] In view of the latest events surrounding the installation of the State Council which some cliques are trying to boycott, the Ecumenical Evangelic Community of Nicaraguan Protestant Churches has issued a document voicing its solidarity with the Council. With the creation of the State Council, for the first time the people will have a mechanism of power and a say in decisions made regarding their own lives, their future and the national character, the document says.

The Ecumenical Evangelic Community finally says that these achievements and changes scare off those who think the people cannot be the guides of their own destiny toward majority objectives and react by defending exploitation, their old privileges as a dominant class and their economic gains. Therefore, the Ecumenical Evangelic Community welcomes the revolutionary achievement which is the State Council, which will be installed on the day of national dignity, and offers its total support and solidarity to it.

CASTRO RECEIVES LETTER FROM AYATOLLAH KHOMEYNI

FL291357 Havana Voice of Cuba in English to North America and the Caribbean 0500 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Text] Iranian revolutionary leader Ayatollah Khomeyni thanked Cuban and nonaligned President Fidel Castro for his message backing the Iranian people's struggle. In a letter sent to the top Cuban leader and released by the Iranian PARS NEWS AGENCY, Khomeyni says that with his open aggression against Iran, President Carter has revealed his true nature. After wishing the Cuban president and people good luck, Khomeyni said that Iran would resist the enemies of Islam to the very end, especially U.S. expansionism.

Bani-Sadr Message to Castro

FL292358 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2341 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Text] The president of Iran today requested that an extraordinary ministerial-level conference of representatives of the nonaligned countries be convened to examine the constant intrigues and maneuvers of the United Stated against the Islamic Revolution.

In a cable sent to the movement's chairman, Fidel Castro, Bani-Sadr emphasized that the aggressive incursion of U.S. troops in Iran pursued broader objectives than the simple rescue of the hostages, which Washington is trying to make believe.

There are numerous indications, adds the cable, that the United States is plotting against the Iranian people and intends to carry out these plots. In this regard, the Islamic chief of state asks the president of the Cuban Council of State to take the pertinent actions to convene soon an extraordinary conference of representatives of the nonaligned countries movement.

OVER 1,500 BOATS CROWD MARIEL TO TAKE ON REFUGEES

PA291232 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Excerpt] Over 1,500 boats, including shrimp boats and medium-sized vessels, on Sunday crowded into the port of Mariel, located west of Havana, from where there is a continuous flow to the United States of antisocial individuals who cannot adjust to life in a decorous society like that of Cuba.

In order to give assistance if necessary to the vessels traveling along this improvised maritime corridor, Cuba maintains a chain of boats spaced 8 miles apart from Mariel to the waters off Florida. In addition, to give immediate assistance to these improvised means of transportation, Cuba has on duty 24 hours a day rapid surface units equipped with radar and modern communications, as well as airplanes and helicopters. Moreover, a fleet of Cuban Red Cross ambulances with experienced medical personnel has been stationed in the Mariel area.

Bad Weather Prevents Departures

FL291139 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Text] Due to bad weather in the Florida straits as a result of a cold front moving through the area, no vessels departed yesterday carrying antisocial persons for the United States. As soon as the weather improves, the departures will begin. By closing time of today's GRANMA edition at 0300 hours, there were 1,737 vessels from the Florida peninsula at the port of Mariel.

RODRIGUEZ INTERVIEWED ON EMBASSY ISSUE, SOCIAL PROBLEMS

LD300807 Paris LE MONDE in French 29 Apr 80 p 10

[Francis Pisani interview with Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Council of State and Council of Ministers in Havana: "There are Undoubtedly Tensions in our Process of Building Socialism"--date of interview not specified]

[Text] Havana--Mr Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Cuban Communist Party Politburo, is vice president of the Council of State and of the Council of Ministers and is responsible for coordinating foreign trade, foreign affairs and the National Bank of Cuba. He gave us his viewpoint on the events at the Peruvian Embassy in Havana.

"Our country is not going through a crisis; it is experiencing a period of readjustment. In speeches delivered in the past few months, the revolution's top leaders have stressed the existence of problems, none of which are critical."

[Question] What are these problems?

[Answer] As soon as this phenomenon arose, Comrades Fidel and Raul Castro drew attention to a tendency to relax discipline and a sense of responsibility in work, especially in the administration. Indeed we are passing through a transitional phase between an idealistic concept of the way to solve economic problems and a new system. In the past, we tended to hold the view that awareness was enough to solve problems and we went too far in this direction. To remedy this, we undertook to establish a whole series of economic mechanisms based on the principle "to each according to the quantity and quality of his work." However, recently we ran the risk of exaggerating the role of economic automation without taking the problem of awareness into account. The revolutionary leadership then intervened decisively, clearly and precisely, to state the problem.

[Question] How do you explain the emergence of this laxity to which you refer?

[Answer] It is a natural phenomenon in a revolutionary process. It arises when personal self-interest is the basic incentive. This produces a lack of motivation which can be explained by the fact that the effort made is not adequately rewarded materially or morally. In addition to this, there is a lack of collective vigilance and precision. In the final analysis, this calls into question the leaders, officials in enterprises and ministers.

[Question] One wonders whether the major ministerial reshuffle on 15 December last year is indicative of a crisis in the country's leadership?

[Answer] This reshuffle in no way reflects the defeat of a faction or group, as is often alleged abroad. Some ministers had been in the government for 20 years. While being excellent revolutionaries and hard workers, they might have found it difficult to be creative. Many were out of touch and tended to let things slide and lose their efficiency. However all have been given positions of trust in other fields. The reshuffle also enabled us to give some Politburo members more experience in daily administrative practice by entrusting them with ministries.

[Question] Are the problems at the leadership level not indicative of more serious problems?

[Answer] The revolution was passing through a phase in which it was no longer using either the compensatory incentives of stimulation or the control mechanisms.

We thought that the introduction of material incentives was inadequate and we tended to abandon some degree of economic automation.

In capitalism exploitation is automatic: The man who does not work is sacked. The foremen are there to demand work on behalf of the director or boss. Socialism must replace them with comrades who monitor work on behalf of society and they cannot afford to be indifferent to bad work. I would also like to mention one problem which we have not yet completely overcome: the lack of an industrial tradition. Industrialization presupposes a degree of discipline which the developed countries have acquired in the course of decades. We have to bridge the gap of underdevelopment and we do not have time to wait.

U.S. Maneuvers and Pressures

[Question] Is your definition of the socialist foreman's monitoring role not comparable to the foreman's role in the capitalist system?

[Answer] Not at all. To build a country's economy, socialism must rely on material incentive and political education which develops the conscience. However, in the Cuban revolution in particular we take account of the need to anticipate the level of conscience possible in the phase of communism during the phase of socialism to some extent. Vigilance supplements some temporary shortcomings. Alone it does not solve any problems.

In addition, this socialist vigilance bears no resemblance to capitalist vigilance, first because it is based on the fundamental principle that the worker is taking part in the production process at the same time as being coproprietor of the whole of society. Second because this vigilance is never persecution on the boss' orders. It merely involves drawing people's attention to things on the community's behalf.

[Question] Has the revolution not overemphasized economic development at the expense of living standards?

[Answer] I will not deny that this aspect may have played some part, especially in influencing those who have entered the Peruvian Embassy. Some people may have considered that the sacrifices required to build socialism are excessive. Even if it is well-organized, this building process imposes restrictions which must be taken into account when assessing what the present builder of socialism receives and what we want the future builder of a more mature and richer society to receive. In addition to this, of course, there is the assumed wealth of communism and nobody yet had any clear idea what it will be or what limits it will have.

There are undoubtedly tensions in our process of building socialism. We have always chosen to give preference to accumulation rather than to consumption so that we can reach a level at which we can develop. Our requirement on the consumption level has, however, never reached the level of the vital needs necessary for man's physical and spiritual education. It related to spheres in which a distinction could be drawn between what is essential and what is less essential. We know that the number of meters of linen which we distribute is inadequate but it is still more than the worker receives in developing societies which are not building socialism. The difficulties being experienced do not affect either food or health care. Those most severely affected by them are the least conscientious workers--and there are many of them--in addition to the antisocial elements and displaced persons whom we mentioned in connection with the Peruvian Embassy. They cannot stand the test which society is imposing on the whole but which the whole accepts and assimilates with the revolutionary spirit which was demonstrated during the 19 April demonstration.

[Question] Is the government not giving the impression of playing down internal problems when it talks of "imperialist maneuvers" in connection with the Peruvian Embassy affair?

[Answer] We can talk of U.S. maneuvers and pressures in a precise and specific way. I would like to mention first the accusations and threats made against us after the "discovery" of the presence of a so-called Soviet brigade in Cuba 17 years after the event took place.

I would also like to recall the offensive sparked off by recent events in Latin America and the Caribbean and the attempt to attribute them to direct Cuban intervention whether in the case of Grenada, Nicaraguan or El Salvador. The subsequent threats are expressed brutally in the U.S. maneuvers planned for 8 May. They are also expressed in the strengthening of the naval and air presence around Cuba. Our radars constantly reveal the presence of ships and even aircraft carriers in much larger numbers than in the past.

This threat by Carter does not worry us but it is occupying our attention. It is taking the form of maneuvers which could easily turn into something else. We revolutionary leaders cannot afford to sit back while the greatest military power in the capitalist world is mobilizing around us. We would be irresponsible if we failed to mobilize all our military and political forces. Those who know the history of Latin America have no difficulty in understanding that U.S. policy can influence the policy of some governments in the hemisphere. We do not want to aggravate quarrels but it is clear that at the same time some countries changed from an attitude of friendship, cooperation and good understanding to an attitude of confrontation and propaganda. There is no argument which can turn those elements that entered the embassies into people persecuted for their political opinions. What had been cautiously negotiated was immediately turned into a scandal by the press in Caracas and Lima. This corresponds to the atmosphere created in Washington and not in these capitals. I can add that the argument used by our interlocutors to convince us to settle the problem was, before the recent events, that they themselves were under such political pressure from the United States that they were not able to resist unless we helped them, which we did. They themselves did not recognize the people who entered the embassies as political refugees.

It is our duty not to contribute to the disunity of Latin America. The only way is to defend the Cuban revolutionary process against all the attacks to which it is subjected. The least sign of weakness, the least concession would be fatal for us.

[Question] Is the Cuban revolution not becoming more radical?

[Answer] The term radicalization does not correspond to what is happening, especially if it suggests such lamentable and unradical experiments as the cultural revolution. We do not need to become more radical but to increase our people's revolutionary conscience. That is more lasting and more important.

NICARAGUAN CULTURAL FIGURES ARRIVE ON VISIT

FL291618 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Apr 80

[Text] At the invitation of the Casa de las Americas, Nicaragua's Vice Minister of Culture (Daisy Zamora) and renowned writer and poet (Jose Coronel Urtecho) have arrived in Cuba. During their stay, they will observe a broad program of cultural activities in our country. Their visit is a symbol of the fruitful relations between our two countries.